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SERVICE DATE – FEBRUARY 10, 2014

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. EP 665 (Sub-No. 1)

RAIL TRANSPORTATION OF GRAIN, RATE REGULATION REVIEW

Decided: February 7, 2014

This decision grants a request by the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) to modify the procedural schedule previously adopted in this proceeding.

By decision served on December 12, 2013, the Board invited public comment on how to ensure the Board's rate complaint procedures are accessible to grain shippers and provide effective protection against unreasonable freight rail transportation rates. The procedural schedule in that decision called for comments to be due by March 12, 2014, and replies to be due by May 12, 2014.

On January 29, 2014, NGFA filed a petition to modify the procedural schedule, requesting an extension of 60 days for each of the submission due dates. NGFA states that the extension would allow it to perform the required analysis and study of new methodologies it plans to propose, as well as time to consider the views of its diverse membership. On February 4, 2014, the U.S. Department of Agriculture filed a letter in support of NGFA's petition. The Alliance for Rail Competition (ARC) also filed a reply in support of NGFA's petition on February 6, 2014.¹

NGFA's request for an extension of time will be granted, and the Board will adopt the following modified procedural schedule:

Comments	May 12, 2014
Replies	July 11, 2014

¹ NGFA and ARC both reference their individual requests for access to Waybill Sample data for use in this proceeding. The Board's Office of Economics will respond separately to those requests.

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

It is ordered:

1. The procedural schedule in this proceeding is revised as described above.
2. This decision is effective on its service date.

By the Board, Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings.